

BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN MONTANA

Bilingual education programs in Montana serve students of 14 language groups in schools on six Indian reservations and urban schools in Missoula.

Training and technical assistance for elementary and secondary school programs are provided through:

Montana Office of Public Instruction
Lynn Hinch, (406) 444-3482 Fax: (406) 444-3924
Email: lhinch@state.mt.us
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501

BOX ELDER SCHOOL DISTRICT--Cree

- Comprehensive Program, 5th year of funding, serving 249 students, K-8. It includes expanded academic year, parent partnership training program, upgraded educational technology capabilities and training.

Project Director—Robert Heppner, Box Elder School District

Box 205, Box Elder, MT 59521

(406) 352-4195, FAX (406) 352-3830

BROCKTON SCHOOL DISTRICT--Dakota

- Development and Implementation Program serving 186 students, K-12, 2nd year of funding. It includes parent training and special alternative instructional component concentrating on English and Dakota language arts.

Project Director--Bernard Lambert, Brockton Public Schools

Box 198, Brockton MT 59213

(406) 786-3311, Fax: (406) 786-3377

BROWNING PUBLIC SCHOOLS--Blackfeet

- Comprehensive School Program, serving approximately 1,100 students grades 6-12, 5th year of funding. Components include: education technology, teacher training, summer school, tutorial in reading, math and science, Blackfeet language and arts, and community involvement.

Project Director—Dr. Dorothy Still Smoking, Browning Public Schools

PO Box 610, Browning MT 59417

(406) 338-2715, Fax: (406) 338-3200

DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS - Salish

- Comprehensive School Program serving 58 students, grades K-8, 3rd year of funding. Program goal is to help students begin first grade with the skills necessary to be in reading. The project implements an intense literacy program that assesses all student needs, integrates cultural education into the regular curriculum, and provides Salish language classes.

Project Director—Casey Tuckerman, Dixon Public Schools

Box 10, Dixon, MT 59831

(406) 246-3566; Fax: (406) 246-3379

e-mail: ctuckerman@montana.edu

FRAZER SCHOOL DISTRICT – Assiniboine

- Development and Implementation Program, 3rd year of funding, serving 143 students in grade K-12. Focus of the program is development of intensive supplemental reading, tutoring, and pre-school parent/child reading preparation.

Project Director—Judy Fuhrman, Frazer School District

PO Box 488, Frazer, MT 59225-0488

(406) 695-2241; Fax: (406) 695-2243

FT. BELKNAP COMMUNITY COUNCIL – Assiniboine, Gros Ventre

- Development and Implementation Program, serving 150 Head Start children ages 3-5 and their families, 2nd year of funding. The program focuses on language development and reading.

Project Director—Nellie Main, Ft. Belnap Head Start Bilingual Program

RR 1 Box 65, Harlem MT 59526

(406) 353-2205; Fax (406) 353-2515

HARLEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS – Assiniboine, Gros Ventre

- Comprehensive School Program serving 262 students, grades K-6, 3rd year of funding. The project develops and implements a reading program, tutoring program, and parent training program.

- Development and Implementation Program, first year of funding, serving grades 7-12. This project focuses on improved academic achievement through supplemental tutoring and parental involvement.

Project Director—Jack Plumage, Harlem Public Schools

PO Box 339, Harlem MT 59526

(406) 353-2416; Fax (406) 353-2674

HEART BUTTE PUBLIC SCHOOLS--Blackfeet

- Comprehensive School Program serving 302 students, grades K-12, 5th year of funding. Components include: development of a comprehensive Blackfeet language program; a Family School Connection Project for grades K-6, supported by three home-school liaisons; staff development to strengthen awareness of the cultural heritage of the students and community; and the development of appropriate instructional strategies and competency in computer usage.

Project Director—Terry Whitright, Heart Butte Public Schools

Box 259, Heart Butte, MT 59448

(406) 338-2200, Fax: (406) 338-2088

LODGE GRASS SCHOOL DISTRICT--Crow

- Systemwide Improvement Grant serving 620 students, K-12, 5th year of funding. Provides for restructuring the district's educational program, developing partnerships with families, extended professional development, collaboration with existing programs and direct services to LEP students.

Project Director—Ken Deputee, Lodge Grass School District

Drawer AF, Lodge Grass, MT 59050

(406) 639-2333, FAX (406) 639-2388

MISSOULA COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Program Development and Implementation Program, 2nd year of funding, serving 230 students. Project goals are to develop high levels of literacy in LEP middle school students, provide professional development for staff and parent opportunities to be involved in their children's education.
- In its first year of funding, serving 425 students, the MCPS plans to increase LEP students' math and reading achievement by implementing extended-day academic tutoring, heritage language classes, extended day kindergarten, and a bilingual summer school. The program will develop a program of inservice training for K-5 educators and an educational partnership with the language minority communities they teach through parent outreach and education.

Project Director--Bettsy Williams, Jefferson School

1700 South Ave. West, Missoula, MT 59801

(406) 728-2400 ext. 5050 FAX: (406) 542-4083

e-mail: madison@montana.com

- Program Development and Implementation Program 9-12, 2nd year of funding, aimed at increasing bilingual proficiency and academic achievement in LEP students. Provides funding for Hmong, Russian, and Native American cultural awareness classes, tutoring/mentoring programs, parental involvement and professional development.

Project Director—Nancy Larum, Hellgate High School

900 South Higgins, Missoula, MT 59801

(406) 728-2457; FAX: (406) 728-2496

e-mail: nlarum@mcps.k12.mt.us

POPLAR SCHOOL DISTRICT--Dakota, Assiniboine

- Systemwide Improvement Grant, 5th year of funding, serving 1,125 students, K-12 grade. Major components: reform total instructional program with emphasis on English language skills acquisition; improve community relationships via the Intergenerational Family Resource Center; adopt an oral native language instructional program that meets the needs of the Dakota/Assiniboine students; systemwide professional development plan for instructional staff.

Project Director--Thomas Brown, Poplar School District

Box 485, Poplar, MT 59255

(406) 768-3408, FAX (406) 768-5510

ROCKY BOY SCHOOL DISTRICT--Cree

- Program Development and Implementation Project serving 290 students preschool through grade 3, 3rd year of funding. This program will provide a reading specialist and three tutors who will develop a comprehensive reading program and implement a “Parents Partnership Reading Program.”

Project Coordinator—Alan Azure, Rocky Boy School District

RR 1 Box 620, Box Elder, MT 59521

(406) 395-4270, FAX (406) 395-4829

ST. IGNATIUS SCHOOLS--Salish, Kootenai

- The Literacy Learning Network is a comprehensive school program serving approximately 1,320 students in four elementary schools (from three districts) on the Flathead Indian Reservation in its 5th year of funding. It is a systemic reform initiative which incorporates professional development in the area of language arts instruction, i.e., Learning Network and writing assessment workshops, reading recovery training, Salish and Kootenai language instruction, technical and computer materials development for Salish and Kootenai language instruction and inter-school and intra-school collaboration.

Project Director--Hal Schmid, St. Ignatius Schools

P.O. Box 1540, St. Ignatius, MT 59865

(406) 745-2971, Fax: (406) 745-4421

e-mail: hschmid@montana.com

WOLF POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS – Assiniboine, Dakota

- The READ (Reading Expedites Academic Development) Program, serving 335 K-12 students, is primarily focused on reading. Three reading specialists will work with low English proficiency students (LEP) in order to boost their reading skills. In addition, the specialists will provide programs of professional development to all elementary classroom teachers, and primarily to the English teaching staff at the secondary level, in order to intensify teachers' abilities to effectively teach students how to read. The program also is focused on the development of an American

Indian cultural curriculum in order to Help LEP students develop improved academic English skills in a culturally enriched and relevant environment.

Project Director: Ruth Newton

213 6th Ave South, Wolf Point, MT 59201

(406) 653-1200, Fax: (406) 653-3104

runewton@wolfpoint.k12.mt.us

Title VII Teacher Training Programs

Ft. Peck Community College

PO Box 398, Poplar MT

Director: Spike Bighorn

(406) 768-5366 Fax: (406) 768-5552

Montana State University Billings

1500 University Drive, Billings MT

Career Ladder Program

Director: Dr. Susan Barfield

(406) 657-2316

Teachers & Personnel Programs

Director: Reno Charette

(406) 657-2198 Fax: (406) 657-2051

Montana State University Bozeman

PO Box 172440, Bozeman MT

Director: Dr. Ardy Clarke

(406) 994-6414 Fax: (406) 994-2893

Stone Child College

PO Box 1082, Box Elder MT

Director: Peggy Standing Rock

(406) 395-4313 Fax: (406) 395-4836